

THE BLURB

APRIL 1957



T H E

B L U R B

Published monthly by the
Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

VOL 6 April 1957 NO 4

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257 Warrior Rd., Drexel Hill, Pa.

CIRCULATION & PRINTING-DEPT.

W3\$\$\$ Collator ** W3IW Locator
W3YJM Boss Stitcher W3VSU Stamplicker
W3WNC Printer

The "Blurb" is published by and for the members of Phil-Mont to further the interest of Amateur Radio in general and Mobile Radio in particular. We endeavor to keep news accurate, interesting, and, in a small way, educational. Any deviation from this is purely unintentional. Permission is given for quoting and copying from the Blurb, provided credit line is included. Commercial use is not permitted. Subscriptions gladly exchanged with other radio clubs.

DEADLINE

Material for the BLURB for W3PXY, and items for the Swap Sheet for W3EXY must be received by the 15th of the month. The BLURB is mailed the last Thursday of the month.

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 1957

PRES.	Russell C. Hamilton	W3UVL
V. PRES.	Melvin R. Jones	W3DHJ
SCTY.	John Muroff	W3SAI
TREAS.	Ernest Juliani	W3DSG

MEETINGS

First Mon. of the month at... Town Hall
Germantown & Haines, Phila.. 8:00 P.M.

NETS & NET FREQUENCIES

Ch 1 - 29493 Kc.	Ch 3 - 27000 Kc.
Ch 2 - 29626 Kc.	Ch 4 - 50.7 Mc.
Scrambled-Egg Net, Weekdays,	0730-0830
Ten on Ten Net, Sundays,	1000-1100
Blarney Sessions, Anytime,	on Ch 1
29493 Kc. is monitored, daily,	0830-0001

for the benefit of mobiles in Phila area.

From the President

"The Psychosomatic Electron"

Once upon a time there was a very morose electron. She would visit a Headshrinker and complain that her life was very futile. She, and her billions of sisters would beat their brains out tearing around inside a dusty 807 and never get invited to that big party in the Tank Circuit. Fact is, the party in the tank wasn't very big, even though there were 600 volts playing the music and a full half ampere on tap. It seems the joint was being picketed by local SWR and the head of that union is a tough old gal we call Miss Match. The union headquarters was located right at the antenna, and no amount of dial twiddling in the tank would liven up the party. Miss Match finally was given a good feed, SWR fell flat, and all the little electrons danced at the ball with those handsome 600 volts; and a half keg on tap!

Now kiddies, the moral of this little story is simply,
"If you want to have a ball,
with a woman (or an antenna),
Make sure she's well fed".

de W3UVL

THE LATEST SCOOP: W3SAE is now a permanent resident Puerto Rico where he set himself up in a contract engineering business. Ed called into 10-on-10 Net from KP4ABD and expects to have his own KP4 call soon.---Speaking of the 10-on-10, it's beginning to gro-o-o-o-w. One week this month we logged 69 stations and could have gotten more except that time was running out and several stations had traffic.---W3VXN should get a big fat bouquet for coming up with his auction idea. The Club made over twenty-seven bux from small (?) items donated for the auction. Stuff included transmitting tubes, ALC-5 receivers, dynamotors, a bug, a mess of feed-thru insulators, and all like that-there. ---W3KDO has his coax antenna up in the air so he can be heard now even in Penn Valley.---The Will Wonders Never Cease Department: W3KNC just completed a DX-35 and is showing up on the net freq consistently. The W3WNC Dept. is on the lookout for news items such as above. It will be continued until it is possible to report that W3IW has a mobile rig in operation-hope you are all still here to read it. ---W3DSC has a classy new car and expects to have the new rig installed shortly.---The Channel 1 Committee is making tape recordings of stations using incorrect operating procedure and improperly adjusted transmitters. Offenders will be notified by mail three times before they are prominently listed in the Blurb. The intent of this committee should not be misconstrued; they are trying to help you by making you aware of infractions on the law. We are getting to be known all over the world, and we will be known by the way we operate our transmitters. The committee will assist with technical problems and on-the-air tests when requested. The mere presence of the Ch 1 Committee has already made a big improvement in operating procedure. Now how about some of these xmtrs that are modulated 150-300% ? ---W3NL is going to try to visit us from Washington some night when we have a meeting. ---W3VXN has done a l/c job of remodeling his rig. Some of QQH's style must have rubbed off onto Bill.---W3TKQ, the Franklin Institute station will count as a contact for stations working toward their PMRC Certificate. W3ADV is trustee for the station which is operated by W3PBR during the hours that the Institute is open.---A trailer for the put-put has been purchased and is being put in shape by a group headed up by who else?- W3QQH.---W3RCE is active again with a mobile station in his Volkswagon. That makes two VW mobiles in the club, the other being W3QZP.---Did you see those QSL cards at last month's meeting? They weren't from a DX station, but WOW!---The CW men ought to try 3503.5 kc on Sunday at 0900. That's the Penna CD net with W3LXQ as NCS.---One of the visitors to the March meeting, Bill Fosnacht, helped us celebrate the day that bears his name by donating doughnuts for chow.---W3IW has an autocall unit just about ready for service. It will be in use on Ch 2 for a test period and will then be used on 29.640 24 hours/day for emergency traffic. Bob is having trouble getting the kind of bell he needs for the autocall. Seems as though the gadget works fine, but have you ever tried to wake up IW?---Phil-Mont service continues. KG1AF in Greenland was patched thru to his XYL in Crumm Lynn via contact on Ch 1. Last month it was W7CI/MM from a position between Hawaii and Singapore to the Captain's family in Baltimore. A gentleman in Costa Rica has been patched via TI2BX to his wife who is ill in the Pennsylvania Hospital. Both W3YJM and W3HQJ have been active in handling phone traffic of this sort, and the club is receiving considerable benefit as a result. It is not uncommon to hear a DX station pop on the frequency and call "CQ Phil-Mont". An interesting legal development described later in this issue will have an important bearing on the legality of phone patches. ---Several of the fellows have been out of town, attending the IRE Convention in NY. ---W3WNC has been appointed Assistant Secretary by W3SAI.---We hear the South Jersey RA has been spending time in smoke filled rooms working on "Project X".---W3VVS is preparing the XYL's kitchen in potent pink. Wonder what color the shack will be.---W3AWH is getting ready to install a phone patch.---W3LNQ (of FD fame) has been long gone in California.---W3SMA has been banging in from his new QTH at Media. Paul is using a Viking whose former owner never ran less than 300 watts input (according to W3UVL).---Speaking of UVL, Russ got the photo credits on several

of the pictures that he took for the Bulletin of the recent accident on the Delaware River.---The English language newspaper in Costa Rica is going to run a feature article on PMRC as a result of the recent phone patch traffic and general QSO'ing with TI2BX. W3SAI is preparing the info.---F8PI was on the frequency the other day. Both W3OKJ and W3IRS talked to him in his native language. He understood Mena perfectly, but couldn't make out what Frenchy was trying to say.---All suits for slander and libel as a result of remarks (and just plain lies) in this issue of the Blurb should be directed to W3QZO who is taking over this month for W3PXY who is married.

Post Cards: W3SGR sez he has a net receiver going after replacing five tubes and a bleeder resistor. Carl was advised by W3QV that when you tap the bleeder for screen current, Ohm's law comes into effect. Carl adds, "Good old QV - nuts to old man Ohm". He further notes that he has been told battery polarity on airplanes is negative ground, as are Chevies and the new 12 volt cars; old cars and boats use positive ground.

W3IW writes that he heard W3VXN on the air as he ran out of gas, and is wondering if it was caused by trying out the new Plymouth too much, too many trips to the bank, or maybe heavy losses in those Saturday nite "500" games. Bob would also like to know how W3VSU parlayed a 12¢/hour raise from Red Arrow into a new HT-32 and SX-101, with a kw final on the way. That's where the money goes, Bob.

From W3HYU: Here lies what's mortal of Jefferson Rand
He used to send code on the broadcast band
He pounded his brass on the teevy wave
Now they pray for his soul in the grave

Anon

W2ZAS has suggested selling advertising space in the Blurb as a possible method to defray publication expenses. This was discussed at a recent mid-month meeting and the consensus at that time was that with the limited circulation that we have, we could not charge enough for an ad to justify the time and effort necessary to prepare the material. The Washington MRC carries advertising in the Autocall, but it is obvious that Andy exercises a high degree of talent and patience in making them worthwhile to the clients. The fellows thought that circulation would get out of hand if we tried too great a readership. It is an idea worthy of consideration and will no doubt be brought up again. W3FOY (Farmer Up Yonder) expresses dismay at the desire to get HiFi out of ham transmitters. Stu is in favor of incorporation, opposed to getting another truck, and thinks increased numbers of out-of-towners on frequency is FB.

W3OWK reports that W3NIP has given WPRA a talk on resistors, and was followed at a later meeting by W3WNC who explained the meaning of reactance and resonance. Al would like to get more Phil-Mont boys to speak at West Philly meetings, and is looking in particular for a description of the organization of PMRC.

K6QVI has been getting fouled up on account of aurora, and missed calling in to the 10-on-10. He relays word that W0ZIT expects to return to this area shortly and will be able to make our meetings again. Chas has a thought on area net stations who would pick up stations trying to contact us but are unable to do so because of improper skip condx. We more or less have that now on an informal basis, but with the way the 10-on-10 is growing we will either have to do something to accomodate all those who are trying to get in, or discourage DX and skip stations. We certainly don't want to do the latter, so let's try to come up with something along the lines that Charlie suggests to improve the sitchyiation.

W3MHR writes: "In the interest of all Phil-Monters, especially those of us who use low power, I suggest that steps be taken to activate UVL's "Radiation Group". As I remember it, Russ was in favor of having a group available to assist those interested in getting the maximum of power into--and out of--their antenna. The group would necessarily have to have such items as FS meter, SWR bridge, etc. at their disposal." Wot say, Russ?

W3VVS has this to say: "Just rec'd a QSL from 5RHW and on it he says my QSL is the first one he has rec'd and the only Phil-Mont QSL he has. Boy us Phil-Mont hams are real QSL'ers - at this rate it will take quite a while to get as many three QSL's in one spot on the wall of a shack. The boys on 160 meters QSL 100%. What about these brother hams on 29.493? So I just checked my QSL file and I got exactly Four Phil-Mont QSL's on hand." So here's our chance fellers. If you have ever worked W3VVS, be sure to ask him for a QSL!

Phil-Mont Certificates Awarded at the March Meeting

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1- W3VXN | (1st PMRC Station) | 8- W3URU |
| 2- TI3JT | (1st DX Station) | 9- W3IRS |
| 3- WØEXG | (1st Midwest Station) | 10- W3ZPP |
| 4- W7GPJ | (1st West Coast Station) | 11- W3SAI |
| 5- W3IW | | 12- WØPLC |
| 6- W3QQH | | 13- W3D&G |
| 7- K4CYX/V02 | | |

W3NIP, who hand lettered the call of each of the above stations on their certificates in Olde English reports that 77 PMRC stations have been counted as a contact by applicants for certificates. Four members have worked all of the applicants. It will be interesting to see who will be able to continue to work all stations trying to get certificates. So far interest in the certificates has been terrific. We hear SJRA is planning a similar one. One snag has been inaccurate reporting of log data; make sure you submit all of the info correctly.

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of W3FPP. Tom Watkins had one of the most often heard mobile stations on the frequency while he resided in this area. At club meetings he could often be heard giving away "tricks of the trade" and helpful advice on knotty TV problems. We owe our choice Field Day location to Tom, who was instrumental in obtaining it for us. He will surely be missed by his many friends.

The FCC has ordered AT&T and Bell systems subsidiaries to permit their subscribers to use accessories attached to the telephone for the purpose of minimizing the effects of noise and obtaining privacy. In commenting on a case involving a suit against the telephone company's "foreign attachment" regulation, A New York court said that a subscriber has the right to use his telephone "in ways which are privately beneficial without being publicly detrimental". This item, which appeared in Electronic Industries Magazine, indicates that a more broadminded view of phone patches may be taken, or should be taken, in the future. They are certainly privately beneficial, and when correctly operated are not detrimental to the public.

ANNOUNCING

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*** FIRST ANNUAL PHI-MONT STAG DINNER ***

1900 April 17

W3D&G has noticed that whenever we get together for a meeting, we wind up talking about everything but what we're assembled for, so why not just have a social

get-together - just to have a good time and talk about things in general. Why travel a long distance to eat cold turkey and be insulted by the toastmaster when you can travel five or ten miles to get juicy steak and be insulted by your friends? Complete details will be available by the April meeting. It looks at this time that the tab will be about \$3.50. It will be held at the Falcon House on West Chester Pike in Llanerch. This will be a strictly social affair for all male members of Phil-Mont.

W3IRS is in the process of revising the membership address list. If your address or telephone number has changed since the last issue of the list be sure to contact Frenchy IMMEDIATELY. IRS puts a lot of time on this list and IMMEDIATE notification will help him out.

MODEL AIRPLANE NATIONALS CONTEST

Every year the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) runs a model plane contest under the sponsorship of the Navy. It is held on a different Naval Base each year, and this year it is scheduled for Willow Grove from July 29 to August 4. We fit in by providing our mobiles for tracking stray planes and recovering them when they land, or at least noting their location if they come down at an inaccessible location. A move is under way to tie in on the 122.1 mc. Unicom frequency for air-to-ground contact with the choppers and light planes which will also take part in the spotting operation.

This is no small operation. Modelers of all ages will be here from just about all states and several foreign countries for the competition. Wide World TV show will cover the meet for a half hour on Sunday at which time 150,000 spectators will be on hand to see the contest and the complete Navy air show. The local TV stations also plan coverage at different times during the week.

Besides being of service to the modelers and the public the Nationals offers an opportunity to blow our publicity horn on a grand scale.

Several at the midmonth meeting were of the opinion that a good article on the contest with heavy emphasis on ham radio could come out of our participation. W3NIP was appointed to handle publicity (the fact that Chuck was not at the meeting had nothing to do with his selection, of course) in conjunction with the local AMA group and in the radio publications. We will need at least five mobile stations every day to handle our part, but since quite a few of the fellows will be home on vacation that week, the problem may not be too tough; a number of guys have signed up already. More details will be in the Blurb as they are available.

1957 FIELD DAY CONTEST

W3AWH, W3DYG, W3KNC, W3NIP, W3QQH, W3QZO, W3DVL and W3WNC held a FD committee meeting at QZO's QTH to set up plans for the contest to be held June 22 and 23. We will be in the three transmitter class again on 80, 40 and 10/2. The 10/2 meter rigs will be in the Comm Truck and a couple of the boys are looking into the possibility of obtaining large tents for the other two bands. Bad weather makes operating in the type of tents we had previous years pretty miserable-doesn't it, Jay? We will be at our regular FD location in Fairview but the exact field where the station will be won't be known until the farmer decides whether to plant the "upper

forty" or the "lower forty". Wherever we are, the path will be well marked so Trackless-You-Know-Who won't drive into the mire again. Antennas will be set up a week in advance using the steel masts owned by the Club. Folded dipoles will be used on 80 and 40; the roof-mounted whip will be used on 10, and a 5 element beam rotated by hand is planned for 2. W3WNC is going to print special logs to improve operating efficiency. The score tabulation will be spread out to get several of the fellows into the act and ease the monotonous chore of deciphering logs.

A new approach to mobile participation will be taken this year. Every mobile station in the club will have mailed to them about one week before the contest, a complete FD package containing log sheets, a simplified score sheet, a Field Day Message Form and instructions. All you do is work as many stations as possible during the contest, keeping a record on the logs supplied, send one FD message, and enter your final score on the form supplied. This makes it easy both for the operator and the final Club Aggregate Mobile score computation, and should improve our standing considerably. A special plaque will be awarded to the club member with the highest mobile score. It will be similar to the Outstanding Member Award in that it will rotate each year to the station with the best FD mobile score. Concentrated mobile operation during the contest will provide plenty of opportunity to get a "Worked all mobile" endorsement for your PMRC Certificate.

Plan to come out on Field Day, June 22 and 23.

De W3QZ0

Sell or Swap

1-wired Heathkit FM tuner
1-Collins PTO ECO and B & W multiplier strip-including power supply
1-ARC V Q 5'er
1-2 meter transmitter-50 watt

call W3HQJ